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Customer Number

Patent
Case No.: 44046.203.276.1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: Klaus Hartig

Application No.: 10/735,295 Group Art Unit: 3635

Filed: December 11, 2003 Examiner: Ryan D Kwiecinski

Title: REVERSIBLE SELF-CLEANING WINDOW ASSEMBLIES AND
METHODS OF USE THEREOF

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

This response responds to the restriction requirement mailed March 7, 2007. The Examiner has required restriction to one of the following inventions under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

- I. Claims 1-14, stated by the Examiner as being drawn to a reversible window assembly, classified in class 428; or
- II. Claims 15-22, stated by the Examiner as being drawn to a method of reducing transparent substrate surface contamination, classified in class 134.

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicant, through his attorney, provisionally elects the invention of Group I (claims 1-14) with traverse.

The claims of Groups I and II meet the requirements for consideration in a single application, *inter alia*, in that they each relate to a reversible window assembly. Further, Applicant traverses the restriction requirement on the grounds that no serious burden on the Examiner exists. If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without

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serious burden, it must be examined on the merits even though it includes claims directed to distinct or independent invention. M.P.E.P. § 803. The subject matter of Groups I and II are believed sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of either group would encompass a search for the subject matter of both groups. To avoid duplicative examination by the Patent Office and unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant, Applicant respectfully requests examination on the merits of all the claims, not just those of Group I.

Furthermore, Applicant submits that if a determination of an allowable generic claim is issued, claims that are written in dependant form or otherwise include all the limitations of the allowed generic claim should be considered. M.P.E.P. § 809.02(c). Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider rejoining the claims of Group I and the claims of Group II upon a finding of allowability of the claims of Group I.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional filing fees required to Deposit Account No. 061910.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner believes it would be useful to advance prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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Please grant any extension of time necessary for entry; charge any fee due to Deposit Account No. 06-1910.
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